

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph [0005] beginning at page 1, as follows:

[0005] The invention proposes a packet switching network including subscriber stations connected to each other through at least one switch. A network is said to be deterministic in the sense that any packet sent on the network from a source subscriber station reaches the destination subscriber station(s) within a duration that is limited in time. In the package switching network for each output port from each switch on the network the following relation is satisfied:

$$\frac{\sum_{i \text{ number of virtual links passing through the buffer}} \left[1 + \text{int} \left(\frac{(\text{Jitter In})_i + \max \text{ Latency}}{BAG_i} \right) \right] *}{(max \text{ frame duration})} \leq latency$$

Please amend the paragraph [0009] at page 2, lines 7-9, as follows:

[0009] ~~(Jitter In)_i~~ (Jitter In)_i is the Jitter associated with a virtual link i that represents the time interval between the theoretical instant at which a frame is transmitted, and its effective transmission which may be before or after the theoretical instant.

Please amend the paragraph [0010] at page 2, line 10, as follows:

[0010] (max frame duration) [[i]] is the duration of the longest frame on the virtual link i.

Please amend the paragraph [0056] at page 6, line 10, as follows:

[0056] To prevent congestion of a switch output buffer so that frames will never be lost, a switch is necessary for each output port and the following relation must be satisfied for all switches in the network.

$$\frac{\sum_{i \text{ number of virtual links passing through the buffer}} \left[1 + \text{int} \left(\frac{(\text{Jitter } In)_i + \max \text{ Latency}}{BAG_i} \right) \right] *}{(max \text{ frame duration})} \leq latency$$

Please cancel the original Abstract at page 12 in its entirety and insert therefor the following replacement Abstract on a separate sheet as follows: